

III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A method of user notification in a ~~portable communication~~ device, said device comprising control software including a calendar-type application, said calendar-type application being capable of managing notification messages, said messages having associated with them at least an item of notification content and a time of notification, said method comprising the steps of:

- comparing said time of notification and current time,
- deciding to notify a user, based at least in part on a said comparison between said time of notification and current time,
- subsequently to said comparison of time, obtaining an audio signal based on said item of notification content, and
- outputting said audio signal through a speaker of said portable communication device.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said notification content comprises text.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of obtaining an audio signal entails obtaining a synthesized speech signal, said speech signal being based at least in part on a speech-synthesized version of said notification text, and further comprising the step of:

- converting said synthesized speech signal into said audio signal.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said device is a portable communication device, and said notification content comprises a recorded sound signal.

5. (Currently amended) A ~~portable communication device, said device~~ comprising control software including a calendar-type application, said calendar-type application being capable of managing notification messages, said messages having associated with them at least an item of notification content and a time of notification, said device further comprising:

-means for comparing said time of notification and current time,

- means for deciding to notify a user, based at least in part on a said comparison between said time of notification and current time,

- means for obtaining an audio signal based on said item of notification content subsequently to said comparison of time, and

- means for outputting said audio signal through a speaker of said portable communication device.

6. (Original) The device according to claim 5, wherein said notification content comprises text.

7. (Original) The device according to claim 6, wherein the means for obtaining an audio signal comprises means for obtaining a synthesized speech signal, said speech signal being based at least in part on a speech-synthesized version of said notification text, and further comprising:

means for converting said synthesized speech signal into said audio signal.

8. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 5, wherein said device is a portable communication device, and said notification content comprises a recorded sound signal.

9. (Previously presented) Computer readable medium on which is stored computer readable software instructions capable of performing a method according to claim 1.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Computer-readable signal~~ Signal source comprising computer readable software instructions capable of performing a method according to claim 1.